Bud's Copy

TITUSVILLE AMATEUR RADIO CLUB NEWSLETTER

AUGUST, 2000

PRESIDENT'S CORNER

By Bud Hughes K4CWG

Linda from Brevard Parks and Recreation has extended her thanks to TARC for our volunteering and assisting with the Teen FEST Saturday night at the Kiwanis Island Park on Merritt Island. The following represented the Titusville Radio Club: Sherry KU4ZO, Ozzie N4SCY, Pat KF4LTY, John KE4ZPA, Jimmy KF4ZOL, Stephanie K4MVO, and yours truly, K4CWG. I don't know the actual teen count but if noise was any indicator then there must have been several thousand. Also my personal thanks to you guys for a job well done. It was fun working with IRARC on this project. We are looking forward to next year.

Hey, get the word out! TARC will be sponsoring a Technician Class along with a 5 WPM Code Class beginning in September. Stephanie, K4MVO will be heading up the program. The classes are to be held at Expedient Services on SR 50. I am sure the theory and CW classes will be held the same night so that one may take advantage of both getting the Technician license as well as the 5 WPM if one should so desire. Some of the details have not been worked out but Stephanie will let us know just as soon as possible.

Our thanks to Titusville Police Officer RicK Lanoue for presenting a very informative and interesting program at our July meeting. I am sure that all in attendance would agree that the police canine's responses to the commands as given by Officer RicK exemplified the value of highly trained animals like this one to the canine law enforcement program.

Hope to see you at the August 22 club meeting.

MINUTES OF BOARD MEETING HELD JULY 21,2000

The meeting was helD at Expedient Services. Attending were Bud K4CWG, Warren W4CEL, John KE4ZPA, Les K4SJC, Archie WN3DHI, Grant KF4IGK, Nick KF4SEK, Becky KF4HUB, Sherry KU4ZO, Ken KD4HNw and Wes AF4N. The following items were discussed and voted on:

1. Whether to have a Hamfest or a Tailgate. Suggested date of mid December after the Okeechobee hamfest. To be discussed and voted on at a regular club meeting.
2. Approved a Technician Class and 5 WPM code class to be taught by Stephanie, K4MVO. Dates to be announced. Grant volunteered to help teach the classes.
3. Feasibility of purchasing a small building to be put in the back yard of Les K4SJC to house club equipment and to replace the one there which is in bad repair. To be discussed at a later date after prices looked into.
4. The new north end repeater was discussed and a number of clarification questions were asked of Nick and Ken. After these were answered to the satisfaction of board members, the board voted to.....see page 2)

HAPPY BIRTHDAY

AUGUST BIRTHDAYS

AUG. 4 KF4FQW DUANE POCOCK
AUG. 5 KC4VMQ DONNA CLARK
AUG. 7 N1OGE BERTHA BONARDI
AUG. 7 KF4SEK NICHOLAS GRAY
AUG. 16 W4EPU PIKE ABELL
AUG. 16 N2JY JUDY SMITH
AUG. 17 N9EZV KEN TENDICK
AUG. 18 KE4BBH JIM PREVATT
AUG. 18 KA0YSO DAVID JACKSON
AUG. 20 W4LOV MIKE HENSLEY
AUG. 20 KG4DSG MIKE WOLFORD
AUG. 22 KF4PGU BILL CANFIELD
AUG. 24 W2SDB BILL EPPLEY
AUG. 28 KV4BY CLARENCE BAUER
AUG. 28 K0RPM RON MORGAN
AUG. 29 KE4HOE FRED HADDAD
AUG. 31 KF4DTC ABBIE MARSDEN

Ed. Note: I hear through the grapevine that Pike, W4EPU is getting something very unique for his birthday from Clara. Maybe he will tell us about it at the next meeting.

Board Meeting (Continued from page 1) support Ken and Nick in this endeavor. Since the repeater is situated on land owned by Ken, it was suggested that Ken be the controller, and Ken agreed to this change. Stipulations for the club's support are that within 2 or 3 months there will be a lockable building built on the site, and that the club will have access to the site and building. Club members will be asked to help in any way possible in the erection of a building to house club equipment.

A LESSON BETTER LEARNED SOONER THAN LATER!!!

e-mailed to Sherry KU4ZO
by Judy KB2ZLH

The older I get, the more I enjoy Saturday mornings. Perhaps it's the quiet solitude that comes with being the first to rise, or maybe it's the unbounded joy of not having to be at work. Either way, the first few hours of a Saturday morning are most enjoyable.

A few weeks ago, I was shuffling toward the basement shack with a steaming cup of coffee in one hand and the paper in the other. What began as a typical Saturday morning turned into one of those lessons that life seems to hand you from time to time. Let me tell you about it.

I turned the dial up into the phone portion of the band on my ham radio in order to listen to a Saturday morning swap net. Along the way, I came across an older sounding chap, with a tremendous signal and a golden voice. You know the kind. He sounded like he should be in the broadcasting business. He was telling whoever he was talking with something about "a thousand marbles." I was intrigued and stopped to listen to what he had to say.

"Well, Tom, it sure sounds like you're busy with your job. I'm sure they pay you well but it's a shame you have to be away from home and your family so much. Hard to believe a young fellow should have to work sixty or seventy hours a week to make ends meet. Too bad you missed your daughter's dance recital." He continued, "Let me tell you something Tom, something that has helped me keep a good perspective on my own priorities. And that's when he began to explain his theory of a "thousand marbles." "You see, I sat down one day and did a little arithmetic. The average person lives about seventy-five years. I know, some live more and some live less, but on average, folks live

about seventy-five years. Now then, I multiplied 75 times 52 and came up with 3900 which is the number of Saturdays that the average person has in their entire lifetime. Now stick with me Tom, I'm getting to the important part. It took me until I was fifty-five years old to think about all this in any detail," he went on. "And by that time I had lived through over twenty-eight hundred Saturdays. I got to thinking that if I lived to be seventy-five, I only had about a thousand of them left to enjoy. So I went to a toy store and bought every single marble they had. I ended up having to visit three toy stores to round up 1000 marbles. I took them home and put them in a large clear plastic container right here in the shack next to my gear. Every Saturday since then I have taken one marble out and thrown it away. I found that by watching the marbles diminish, I focused more on the really important things in life. There is nothing like watching your time here on this earth run out to help get your priorities straight.

Now let me tell you one last thing before I sign off with you and take my lovely wife out for breakfast. This morning, I took the very last marble out of the container. I figure if I make it until next Saturday then I have been given a little extra time. And the one thing we can all use is a little more time." "It was nice to meet you Tom. I hope you spend more time with your family, and I hope to meet you again here on the band. 75 year Old Man, this is K9NZQ, clear and going QRT, good morning!"

You could have heard a pin drop on the band when this fellow signed off. I guess he gave us all a lot to think about. I had planned to work on the antenna that morning, and then I was going to meet up with a few hams to work on the next club newsletter. Instead, I went upstairs and woke my wife with a kiss. "C'mon honey, I'm taking you and the kids to breakfast." "What brought this on?" she asked with a smile. "Oh nothing special. It's just been a long time since we spent a Saturday together with the kids. Hey, can we stop at a toy store while we're out? I need to buy some marbles.

DEPRTMENT OF REVENUE SPEAKS ON SALES TAX AT HAMFESTS

From CyberSkip 7/2000

The Florida Department of Revenue (DoR) has answered an inquiry filed by NOFARS President Billy Williams, N4UF. Answers were sought to six questions regarding applicability of Florida sales tax to purchases at hamfests and tailgataes. The inquiry was discussed at the March NOFARS meeting after conflicting information was provided by several DoR agents.

The inquiry described two types of gatherings. A **hamfest** is described as a one or two day convention where commercial exhibitors sell radio equipment. Individuals also sell used gear such as radio receivers, transmitters, test equipment, etc. from tables provided by the hamfest organization for a fee. A **tailgate** is a single day event where vendors sell used Amateur Radio gear from tables or vehicles in a parking lot or grass field along the side of a road. A club or group provides space at a nominal charge and each vendor handles his own transactions.

The nine page response from DoR Tax Information Services in Talahassee was accompanied by 44 pages of statutes and several leaflets. It is well-written and leaves little doubt. Below is each question and the DoR response compiled from the nine page letter.

1. **Are all sellers at such tailgates and hamfests required to register and collect Florida Sales Tax?**

Response: An "occasional sale" rule allows an individual or firm to have two tax-free sales in a 12 month period. But this tax exemption does not apply if a sale is made from a location where other persons are required to collect tax. See Florida Administrative Code Rule 12A-1.037(3) paragraph 5c.

Comment by N4UF - This means that if even one seller at a hamfest or tailgate has more than two tax-free sales of any type during a 12-month period, everyone at that location must register and collect sales tax.

2. **Does the "occasional sale" exemption apply? If so, to what extent?**

Response: The "occasional sale" exemption is not applicable if any other vendors participating in the event are required to collect sales tax. Sales of second-hand goods (used merchandise) are not exempt unless they qualify as an "occasional sale."

3. **Are commercial vendors (usually registered) selling new equipment and individuals selling used equipment considered to be in the same category with regard to sales tax laws?**

Response: Under the circumstances your letter outlines, no distinction is made between commercial vendors who sell new merchandise and individuals who sell used merchandise. Rule 12A-1.037(7)F.A.C. provides that these same requirements apply to sales made by non-profit organizations (except churches) under similar circumstances.

4. **Are registrations/admissions to such events taxable? Can tax be avoided by calling such fees donations?**

Response: Since both a "tailgate" and a "Hamfest" qualify as exhibitions, any admission charges that are assessed are taxable. In order for an admission charge to quality as a "donation", it must be given voluntarily without coercion. Donations of any amount must be acceptable and *those who choose not to donate must not be barred from entry. If a specific dollar amount is designated, it no longer qualifies as a donation.*

5. **Are exhibitor booth and table space sales taxable? If the sponsor is an IRS chartered 501©4, would this affect the answer?**

Response: Larger events such as a "hamfest" that are held in an exhibition hall, convention hall or auditorium are governed by Rule 12A-1.070(7)(b), F.A.C., which states "when space is subleased to a convention or industry trade show in a convention hall, exhibition hall or auditorium, whether publicly or privately owned, the sponsor who holds the prime lease is subject to tax on the prime lease and the sublease shall be exempt." Therefore, the sponsoring organization that pays for the rental of the hall/auditorium must pay sales tax on the primary lease of space. However, under these circumstances, any charges made to the vendors to sublease their exhibition space is exempt. Admission to events sponsored by 501©4 organizations are taxable.

6. **Is food and drink for on-premises consumption at such event taxable?**

Response: Food and drink vendors at these events must also collect the sales tax based on a percentage of their total sales, unlike other vendors who are required to add the amount of the sales tax to their sales price.

SUMMARY BY DEPARTMENT OF REVENUE

We are in receipt of your letter of April 15, 2000 concerning Florida sales and use tax. Specifically, you are concerned about the application of sales tax to transactions at amateur radio conventions. You state that these events are operated according to two basic formats. Some such events are sponsored by organizations which are chartered under Section 501©(4) of the International Revenue Code. In addition, you are questioning whether the "occasional sale" exemption applies to individuals who participate in these events or whether any distinction is made between commercial vendors selling new equipment and individuals selling used equipment. In summary, all vendors at "tailgate" and "hamfest" events are required to collect Florida sales tax. Admission fees to these events are taxable. Participation or space fees may or may not be taxable depending upon the circumstances. Sales by food and drink vendors are also subject to sales tax.

OTHER EXCERPTS

It is important to note that Rule 12A-1.098, F.A.C. was repealed on July 1, 1999. Many of the provisions it contained were considered to be redundant. The brochure, "*Flea Markets and Other Temporary Sales Sites*" was revised in September 1999 to reflect any changes. (Note- this was the brochure published in the May ***Balanced Modulator)***

Rule 12A-1.060(1)(a)3 F.A.C. allows the Department to impose a $100 registration fee, in lieu of the customary $5 registration fee, to businesses or persons who fail or refuse to collect Florida sales tax as required by law.

Any person who conducts a convention or trade show is required to maintain and preserve copies of agreements as long as required by s.213.35 Florida Statutes and to make agreements available, upon request, to the Department of Revenue for inspection and copying.

BRIEFS
From 7/2000 CyberSKIP

COMING SOON - Insurance Supermarkets.
Online insurance supermarkets are set to revolutionize the insurance industry, taking off into the mainstream, now that a sizable slice of most Western nations have easy Internet access, according to a new report The study, from Forrester Research, predicts that by 2005, around 20 percent of all general insurance sold to personal customers will be sold online, much of it through online supermarkets. In the UK, the report said, this will create an online market worth 3.1 billion pounds ($4.6 billion).

SAVING MONEY ON PRESCRIPTION DRUGS.
Cardiologists Dr. Joseph Rogers says patients who don't have medical insurance could often be spending less money if they had more information about lower-cost alternatives for many frequently prescribed drugs. Problem is, their own doctors often don't have the time or resources to track down cheaper alternatives. The newly launched Rxchange, founded by Rogers, can do the research for patients free of charge and generate a printable report of alternatives they can take back to their doctors for approval. Rxchange this week unveiled its inaugural database covering drugs related to cardiology care. Users begin Rxchange "consultations" by identifying the medications and dosages they have been prescribed by their doctors. Rxchange can then suggest alternative brand drugs and, if applicable, estimates of how much money each alternative can save patients. Users are then encouraged to take the results to their doctors, who can write new prescriptions if they agree with Rxchange's findings. World Wide Web: **http://www.rxchange.com/**

RECIPE OF THE MONTH

OLD FASHIONED OATMEAL PANCAKES

2 cups regular rolled oats
2 cups (about) buttermilk
2 eggs
4 Tbs. Butter or margarine melted & cooled
½ cup raisins
½ cup all purpose flour
2 tablespoons sugar
1 Tsp. *each* baking powder and baking soda
½ Tsp. ground cinnamon
¼ Tsp. Salt

In a bowl combine oats and 2 cups buttermilk and stir until well blended. Cover and refrigerate until next day.

In a bowl beat eggs lightly and add to oat mixture, along with butter and raisins. Stir just until blended.

In another bowl stir together flour, sugar, baking powder, baking soda, cinnamon and salt. Add to oat mixture and stir just until moistened. If batter seems too thick, add more buttermilk (up to 3 tbs.)

Preheat a griddle or wide frying pan over medium heat. Grease lightly. Spoon batter, about 1/3 cup for each cake, onto griddle. Spread batter out to make circle 4" in diameter. Cook until tops are bubbly and appear dry. Turn and cook other side until browned. Makes about 1-1/2 doz. pancakes. Serve with warm syrup.

Ed. Note: At the September covered dish supper last year, someone brought a carrot soufflé. Les K4SJC is looking for the recipe. He says it was sweet (thinks there were marshmallows in it) and oh! So good. If you brought this dish, or know who did, please let Les know.

ABELL'S ANECDOTES
By Pike W4EPU

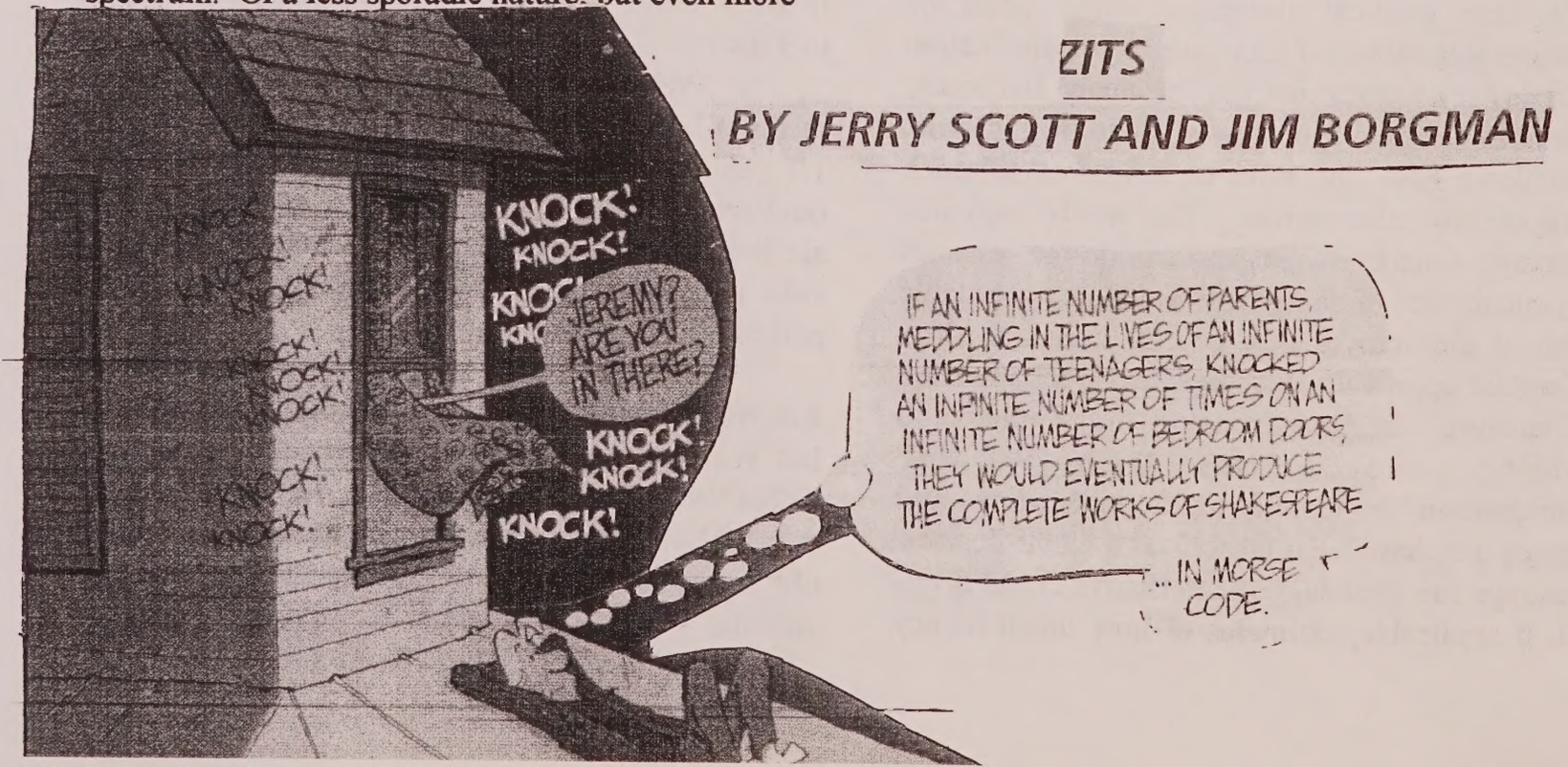
On June 6, 2000 two X-class Solar Flares on the Sun occurred in close succession. Thus ejecting enormous clouds of atomic particles which arrived here on June 8 and 9. The bombardment of our communications satellites and the ionosphere by those particles had the potential to effect power systems, communications systems, global positioning systems and even telephone paging systems. Not to mention amateur radio communications. Again on the weekend of June 15-16, a similar disturbance occurred.

Fortunately, the above occurrence had little if any appreciable effect on our world wide satellite communications systems. However, the event on June 15 and 16 practically shut down our Sunday morning 40 meter phone net on 7165 Hz. Indeed, it is not over yet. This cycle of Solar activity is expected to continue through the summer of 2000.

This phenomenon can also have the opposite effect by actually enhancing Amateur HF long range communications in the upper portion of the HF spectrum. Of a less sporadic nature, but even more significant, is that we are now in the high portion of the eleven year sunspot cycle. The sunspot number is in the range of 160 to 180, which is quite high. Some of you may be more familiar in terms of "solar flux" which is proportionately in the range of 110 to 130. Of course the higher the sunspot number, or solar flux, the higher the useful HF frequencies are for DX communications. A good example is that on Sunday, June 23, 2000, Hank AA3HP reported that, for a period during the early morning hours, the 10 meter band was open to Japan on the 'long path'.

If you are a DX buff and want to get your DXCC, etc., and have some fun in the process, now - and for the next year or so - is the time.

And - for the students of our amateur licensee training classes of the mid '90x: As you may recall, we instructors promised you that great things would happen in the High Frequency Amateur bands, in terms of DX activities, around the turn of the century. Now our promises are being fulfilled. The prospects of excellent world wide amateur radio communications are, or soon will be, as good as it gets. 73s es 88s


ZITS
BY JERRY SCOTT AND JIM BORGMAN
KNOCK!
KNOCK!
JEREMY? ARE YOU IN THERE?
KNOCK!
KNOCK!
KNOCK!
IF AN INFINITE NUMBER OF PARENTS, MEDDLING IN THE LIVES OF AN INFINITE NUMBER OF TEENAGERS, KNOCKED AN INFINITE NUMBER OF TIMES ON AN INFINITE NUMBER OF BEDROOM DOORS, THEY WOULD EVENTUALLY PRODUCE THE COMPLETE WORKS OF SHAKESPEARE
...IN MORSE CODE.

TREASURERS REPORT

By Becky Lee, KF4HTB

Balance forward from 1999	$4333.03
Deposits Year to Date	2700.35
TOTAL INCOME	**$7033.38**
Expenditures	3066.07
BALANCE AS AT 7/31/00	**$3967.31**

JULY MINUTES

By Becky, KF4HTB

After the Pledge of Allegiance, members and guests introduced themselves. Bill W2 SDB played Happy Birthday on his harmonica.

KA4VYH, Bill Young invited club members to participate in a solar power work shop to be held at Cocoa Brevard Community College on Thursday and Friday, July 27 and 28.

The most interesting program took up most of the evening. Titusville Police Officer Rick Lanoue, who is responsible for the department's 4-dog canine unit, explained how the dogs are trained and maintained. Just about every member had a question for Officer Rick. After the refreshment break, there was a break in the rainy weather, and everyone went outside to see a demonstration of the control Officer Rick had over the dog. Steve Scofield acted as the decoy, and the club was treated to a demonstration of how the dogs go after, seize and hold suspects.

Bud asked for volunteers to help be the eyes and ears for the authorities at TEENFEST at Kiwanis Island Park On Saturday, July 26. This is a tobacco free, drug free affair. Buses will pick up and return participants.

Bud also told the members that the club will support the North Brevard repeater, and asked for volunteers to help with the construction of a building at the site to house the repeater equipment.

Club Officers

President: Bud Hughes, K4CWG. 267-3450
V.Pres: Ozzie Osband, N4SCY. 321-LIFTOFF
Sec/Treas: Becky Lee, KF4HTB, 267-9375

Elected Board Members

Ken Denman, KD4HNW. 269-5711
John Renninger, KE4ZPA. 267-9431
Grant Hahne, KF4IGK. 269-6484
Sherry Hughes, KU4ZO. 269-0779

Repeater Custodian Board Members

Les Griner, K4SJC (146.91) 267-1565
Warren Murray, W4CEL (146.97) 638-5476
Dave McLean, WB4SIG (444.15) 267-6181
Larry Carr, WB9MFJ (Packet-Rose Node) 268-4114

Club Information

Meetings: Monthly on 4th Tuesday at 1900 hrs. at Jaycee Building

Newsletter Editors: KF4HTB Becky Lee
K4EOS Clyde Lee

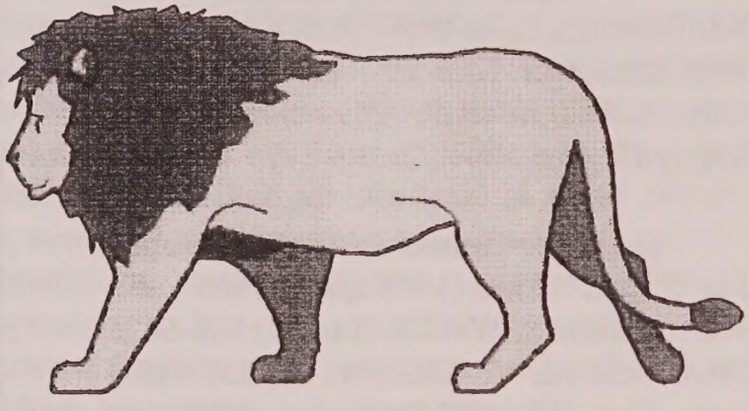
Nets: **VIP**-Thursdays at 1000 hrs. 146.910
Friendship-Thursdays at 1830 hrs. 146.910
Mosquito-Wednesdays at 1900 hrs. 28.333
Traders-Fridays at 2000 hrs 146.910

PIRACY STILL RIFE ON THE WORLD'S OCEANS

From 7/00 CyberSKIP

Ocean piracy is not the stuff of story and history books. Outrage in the shipping industry at the alarming growth in piracy on the world's oceans prompted the creation of the IMB Piracy Reporting Center. The center supplies investigating teams that respond immediately to acts of piracy and collect evidence for law enforcement agencies. Among the features on this site is a weekly review of reported acts of piracy. World Wide Web: **http://www.iccwbo.org/ccs/menu-imb-piracy.asp**

TITUSVILLE AMATEUR RADIO CLUB
P. O. BOX 73
TITUSVILLE FL 32781-0073



HAPPY BIRTHDAY ALL YOU LEOS

CFrost523 @ aol.com

MEMBERSHIP UPDATE

Total membership: 221 (150 regular, 53 family, 12 honorary, 6 other)

NEW MEMBER: KG0KE DAVID ARENSON

RENEWALS: KE4AGO W. B. REALY
KE4GWQ CLYDE CARTER
KE4KCT CHARLIE FROST
KE4MXB BONNIE FROST
AE40J DAVID GREENWALD
KE4TQZ SANDY GREENWALD
KF4SEK NICK GRAY
K1TJK TOM KELLY
W2TRX WALT FANTON
KF4UXT JIM TYNER
KF4VAK MARY TYNER
KA4VYH BILL YOUNG

OK Bud 12/13/00

HAMFESTS:

8/26	FT. PIERCE
9/10	MELBOURNE
9/16	LANTANA
9/24	NEW PORT RICHEY
9/30	DAYTONA BEACH
10/14	TAMPA
10/13-14	STARKE
10/14	SUNRISE
10/21	W.PALM BEACH
10/28	JACKSONVILLE
11/4	SORRENTO
11/11	PORT ST. LUCIE
12/2	OKEECHOBEE
12/2-3	PALMETTO
12/9	LAKE CITY